Doordarshan Programmes

5507. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that regional entertainment programmes telecast by rotation on Doordarshan, are not being telecast properly, regularly, and in time for the last one year or so;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to ensure that these programmes of different States are telecast on Doordarshan regularly and in time, without any deviation from the schedule set therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) When important national or International events are relayed live by the National network of Doordarshan or by the metro service, the regional entertainment programmes telecast by rotation on Doordarshan are sometimes curtailed to the extent of such relay.

(c) Depending on the resources that can be generated by such national or international events or the importance of relaying such events in public interest, the regional entertainment programmes telecast by rotation on DD get curtailed. It is the endeavour of DD to ensure that such curtailment of programmes is kept to the barest minimum, taking into account the programme exigencies, on both the national network and the Metro.

Ayurveda Treatment in Tourist Centres of Kerala

5508. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Kerala for providing Ayurvedic treatment in the tourist centres of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Free Gifts

5509. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Union Government has been invited to the news item capitoned 'Is offering free gifts unfair?" appearing in 'The Hindu Businessline', New Delhi, dated August 10, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government reported there to; and

(d) the manner in which the Government propose to stop this unfair practice ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central issue raised in the article refers to the practice of free gifts associated with the sale of commodities and the problems faced by the consumers. The article has also suggested that the consumer should exercise caution in respect of such sale.

(c) and (d) A consumer affected by the unfair trade practice adopted by the seller/trader can seek redressal of his grievances from the Consumer Courts set up under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 or from the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission set up under the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969.

[Translation]

Amendment in the Provision of Financial Assistance

5510. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make amendments in the existing rules for providing financial assistance to Non-governmental Organisations in future; and

(b) if so, the time by which the required amendments are likely to be made ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir, There is no proposal to amend the provisions contained in the existing General Financial Rules, 1963 for grants-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Monuments in the Country

5511. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a number of monuments which have been neglected/unidentified so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to develop those monuments;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to popularise them among the tourists?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b) According to the Archeological Survey of India